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ISAAC H. JULIAN, Editor.

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.

SATURDAY.....MAY 4.

Official Paper of Hays and Blanco Counties.

Illegitimate Enterprise.

One of the most sinister characterizations of the times is the manifestation of activity in irregular and illegitimate ways. Perhaps this is a result of the depression in regular and legitimate business. At any rate its existence is a fact, and one much to be regretted. Amid the pressure of "hard times" and slowness of business, there has been no diminution of activity in more objectionable ways. During all these dull years there has been no cessation of crime and outrage.

To say nothing of darker crimes, robbery and swindling in all their varied forms have been especially conspicuous. And here we do not mean altogether such forms of wrong-doing as the law takes or should take cognizance of; but also others which, though considered "respectable," are essentially of the same character. We take it that any species of activity which returns no productive benefit, or any exorbitant gain, enforced on the principle that "might makes right," is essentially allied to robbery. The practices of the gambler belong to the first class; and the exactions of such institutions as our stage and express companies here in Texas are certainly closely allied to the latter, as illustrated in stage robberies and the like. Such things, it is true, may and do shelter themselves behind the "forms of law," but that fact does not, in the eye of reason and justice, essentially affect their character.

But as practical illustration is more effective than abstract comment, we will refer to a few practical points. And first with regard to such thimble-rigging operations as the recent one by which it has been sought, "without rhyme or reason," to depreciate the value of Mexican silver coin, acknowledged to be the purest in the world. Will any one presume to say that that was a legitimate enterprise, or essentially more honorable on the part of its concoctors than petty larceny?

Again, there is the far graver question of our land titles, threatened by clap-trap bogus claims, nominally Mexican, but as nobody doubts, got up by Anglo-American ingenuity, cupidity and knavery. These constitute an outrage of the foremost rank. A writer on the subject pertinently says:

One of the highest forms of invested capital is real estate, and to the first thought there is nothing one may fear who is possessed of large real estate; yet there is nothing more sensitive than real estate if attacked from the direction of its title. Its extent, stability, improvements, attractions, are nothing when seeking a market, if ever so light a suspicion is cast upon its title.

The above will be particularly appreciated in Texas at the present time. The article on this subject which we copied week before last from the *Galveston News*, shows forcibly the aggravated character of the outrage implied in these so-called Mexican claims. No power of language can possibly do justice to the subject.

What shall be done to repress this wholesale spirit of practical robbery, which, though under the forms of law, is rampant in the land? We would not, with the writer in the *News*, sug-

gest a resort to mob law, although if anything would justify it, cases like some of those he particularizes would do so. But our idea is different. A public sentiment should be created and brought to bear on such nefarious practices such as would effectually hold them in check. To this end we would have the combined influence of the schoolmaster, the pulpit, and above all of the press. Under such co-operation there would arise a public opinion which would be a terror to evil-doers, and hold them in check by their own superior law—self interest. A public opinion which would make it unprofitable for our "money-changers" (regular descendants of those whom Christ scourged from the temple) to cheat the people; unprofitable for our stage and express companies to continue their system of practical robbery; and above all, *signally unprofitable* for the mousing underminers of our land titles—a public sentiment breathing so hotly the just wrath of an outraged community, that no respectable lawyer would dare lend his countenance or aid to such infernal machinations. And so of all similar operations. Under such a public sentiment, all such baleful emanations of the pit of darkness would vanish like the mists of morning before the rising day.

An excursion of Iowa editors into Texas was to begin April 24. We suppose "the brethren" are now in our State. Hope they may have a good time.

COL. JAMES BOWIE, of Texas revolutionary fame, has a niece, in the person of Mrs. Moore, formerly of New Orleans, now living in Galveston. Mrs. Moore resided in Travis county for some years. She has two sons in Texas, one living in Galveston, the other in Travis county.

CAPTAIN HAYES, receiver of the International railroad, has given his bond for \$50,000, with George Ball, J. H. Hutchins, John Sealy and George Sealy as sureties, and Judge Duval has accepted it.

A LATE Washington letter says: In this general commendation, no one ought to overlook the tremendous fraud of which the House was guilty on Monday in the passage of a bill throwing away five or six million dollars on "river and harbor improvements." If one party only had been guilty in this matter it would be condemned beyond redemption. Both parties were "in it" however. The pretext upon which many voted for this extravagance was that the money would put laborers to work. The history of such appropriations is the history of frauds and enormous private fortunes, not of prosperity to labor or business.

The Austin *Statesman* calls the attention of its people to the following letter from the Madison, Wisconsin, Woolen Mills Company:

We are contemplating moving our mills to some part of your State, and from the meagre reports we obtain, we think your city a desirable point. Will you kindly furnish us such data as would naturally interest a manufacturer? Is the water power steady and reliable? What is the price of water privileges and what are the taxes? Also average price of wool and skilled labor? We would bring girls and men for work. What are prices of living as compared with the East?

We have here at San Marcos just the water power wanted, in boundless supply—a great deal superior to that of Austin or almost any other place. Ought not some of our leading citizens to write and post up this Wisconsin company?

The Secret of It.

We like to give credit for a good thing, even when it proceeds from a questionable source. Of this character is the following passage from a speech of Mr. Hayes on his tour South, in Tennessee:

"We have now reached in the West, my friends, the very margin of that rainless region, where no agriculture can succeed except by irrigation. Therefore, Mr. Greeley's advice, 'Young man, go West,' in my judgment ought to be changed to 'Young man, go South.' [Applause.] For here you have that salubrity of climate, that fertility of soil, those resources most conducive to immigration, and I take it that all the wise men in Tennessee desire immigration. Desiring it, what can you do to obtain it, and what will best induce the best immigration from Europe and from the North? I think I have the secret of it. Let there be a little school house in every neighborhood, on every hill-side, on some side of it, the shady, if possible, and obtain a teacher nine months in the year. Such school houses scattered everywhere will be a better advertisement for your country than any other that costs the same amount of money which can be contrived."

Hancock on the Stump.

Hon. John Hancock lately made a speech at Georgetown. The *Record* reports him as follows:

The speaker reviewed the financial condition of our state during the past eight years. "I did not come here to make a crusade against any one, but, gentlemen, there is something wrong—seriously wrong—roguishly wrong with our state government. Else, how could the fact be accounted for that while the offices are just the same in number that they were before; while the percentage of taxation is 8 times greater—it formerly having been only $\frac{1}{8}$ of 1 per cent, and is now something like 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; while the state then had its accounts all paid and \$300,000 surplus in the treasury, the state is now over \$7,000,000 in debt. Verily, there was something very seriously the matter. He said he was not a candidate for any position; that during the time he has been out of office since his return from Washington something over a year ago, he has experienced more serene happiness than he had ever known before: that he was able, now, to speak out his sentiments regardless of anybody's opinion, and he expected to retain the privilege.

Science and Religion.

LONDON, April 5.—James Anthony Froude, the eminent English historian has sent an elaborate article to the *International Review of New York*, containing most remarkable statements upon the subject of science and religion. He holds that the present state of religious opinion, throughout the world is extremely critical; that theologians no longer speak with authority; that those who uphold orthodoxy cannot agree on what ground to defend it; that materialism all over Europe is respectfully listened to when it affirms that the claims of revelation cannot be maintained, and that the existence of God, and of a future state, the origin of man the nature of conscience, and the distinction between good and evil, are all open questions. He says that no serious consequences, at least in England and America, are yet outwardly apparent, and that the entire generation alive may pass away before the inward change shows itself in marked external symptoms; but that it is certain that religious opinion is moving with increasing speed along a track which it will never retrace and towards issues infinitely momentous.

The Dallas *Herald* is not in favor of a county convention to nominate candidates for local offices, saying:

As a rule, it is found well-nigh impossible to prevail upon the majority of good citizens to attend the primaries, and participate in the election of delegates to nominating conventions. The result is that the selection of delegates is generally left to the tools and henchmen of ambitious politicians, who scheme and wire pull until they secure a set of delegates favorable to their desires and pretensions. If a convention is called, the greater number of respectable citizens will, as always, neglect to look after the primary meetings for the election of delegates. This will give the wire pullers and cliques an opportunity to organize the convention and nominate the candidates. But if the people are left free to make their own selection of candidates at the polls, they will be there when election day comes, and will elect the men whom they want for office.

There is another side to the question, however, and we shall not undertake to decide it.

The following is a correct list of the chairmen of the Democratic District Executive Committees:

District.	Chairman.	County.
1.	W. W. Whitehead.....	Tyler
2.	W. B. Waul.....	Houston
3.	J. G. Hazelwood.....	Polina
4.	S. E. Wascour.....	Harrison
5.	T. J. Campbell.....	Marion
6.	W. A. Wortham.....	Hopkins
7.	Thomas R. Bonner.....	Smith
8.	H. J. Hunter.....	Anderson
9.	Henry W. Lightfoot.....	Lamar
10.	J. J. Hill.....	Kauffman
11.	William Hudson.....	Cook
12.	Thomas H. Murray.....	Collin
13.	Amzi Bradshaw.....	Ellis
14.	James R. Seely.....	Freestone
15.	J. H. Littlefield.....	Robertson
16.	I. J. Gore.....	Walker
17.	George Quinan.....	Wharton
18.	Charles Stewart.....	Harris
19.	Charles L. Cleveland.....	Galveston
20.	William Thompson.....	Washington
21.	B. W. Kimes.....	Falls
22.	C. B. Pease.....	McLennan
23.	C. M. Pearce.....	Tarrant
24.	G. G. Thoms.....	Bosque
25.	N. G. Shelley.....	Travis
26.	B. F. Dunn.....	Fayette
27.	George McCormick.....	Colorado
28.	C. F. Bailey.....	Araucanus
29.	John S. Ford.....	Cameron
30.	Charles Montague.....	Medina
31.	A. N. Denton.....	Hays



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They are the Secret of Beauty

Lady's Dress. In consequence of the high price of these elegant LACE SETS, they can only be sold now in large cities to the wealthier ladies of society, but in order to introduce these elegant Laces throughout the country we have determined to give ladies, or gentlemen ordering for ladies, the advantage of *Importers' prices* from *lace manufacturers in France*, thereby saving you the large and fancy profits made by dealers. The retail price of these lovely sets is \$7.50 in large city stores. To introduce these ELEGANT LACES in our NEW and FASHIONABLE style, we will send you

ONE DOLLAR!

One beautiful wide Lace Handkerchief, of new and elaborate design, which any lady in the land will be perfectly charmed with; or we will send the Complete Set of Two Cuffs and One Collar and the Lace Handkerchief on receipt of \$2.00, or the Two Cuffs and One Collar for \$1.00.

These sets are so constructed as to fit any one. Just think of it—elegant Lace Sets for only \$2.00, that retail for \$7.50. All laces delivered to you free of charge, securely packed, and sent the day your order is received. The safest way to remit is by post-office money order or registered letter, although currency, silver, or postage stamps will be received.

Any one who orders these laces has the privilege of returning them if they are not perfectly delighted with them. Write plainly your name, town, county and State, and address,

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Consumers will find this Screw Worm Ointment at their neighboring stores. Dealers will please order from their wholesale merchants or direct from us.

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Apply to Sterling Fisher, San Marcos, Hays Co., where maps may be seen.

Mar. 30-3m

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THE STATE OF TEXAS.

TO THE SHERIFF OR ANY CONSTABLE OF HAYS COUNTY—GREETING:

You are hereby commanded that you summon the unknown heirs, successors or legal representatives of Thomas A. Williams, deceased, whose names and place of residence are unknown, by publication of this citation in some newspaper published in Hays county for eight weeks, to be and appear before the Hon. District Court of Hays county, on the

2d Monday in September, 1878,

then and there to answer the petition of John P. Blessing, filed in said court against the said unknown heirs of Thomas A. Williams, deceased, and James

Franks, Nathaniel Franks, D. T. Franks, Henry C. Skaggs, Louisa F. Skaggs, Robt. M. Skaggs, Wm. H. Skaggs, Mary E. Skaggs, Ada R. Skaggs, Ellen R. Skaggs, Wiley B. Skaggs, Wm. B. Wiley, Mary F. Wiley, Atta D. Wiley, Wm. Clifton, Henry Clifton D. S. Carnahan, Mary McGuire, Jennie E. Robinson, R. L. Robinson, J. C. Alexander, Mary L. Alexander, Harvey N. Alexander, Jesse H. Alexander, and alleging that said unknown heirs and said Mary McGuire, Jennie E. Robinson, R. L. Robinson, J. C. Alexander, M. L. Alexander, H. N. Alexander, and J. H. Alexander are co-tenants with plaintiff and jointly own all of one-half league of land, situated in Hays county, Texas, granted to Z. Hinton, being survey number four, and described as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of survey No. 7, made for Corbin, at a stake and mound; thence south forty-five deg. west, four thousand nine hundred varas to a stake and mound; thence north 45 deg. west, 1760 varas, a branch runs south 2570 varas, a branch runs south 2809 varas, a stake and mound; thence north 45 deg. east 4000 varas, intersects the west boundary line of league No. 7, a stake and mound, thence south 60 deg. east 2950 varas, to the beginning. And also alleging that said J. Franks, N. Franks, D. P. Franks, H. C. Skaggs, L. F. Skaggs, R. M. Skaggs, W. H. Skaggs, M. E. Skaggs, A. R. Skaggs, E. R. Skaggs, W. B. Skaggs, W. B. Wiley, M. F. Wiley, A. D. Wiley, W. Clifton, and H. Clifton, hold a portion of said land adversely to these co-tenants, and praying judgment for the recovery of said land to these co-tenants for damages, costs, special and general relief. Also alleging that D. S. Carnahan sets up a claim adverse to these parties, which makes a cloud upon the title of these co-tenants and asking for removal of same, damages, costs, special and general relief, and praying for partition between these co-tenants herein named, for costs, and special and general relief. Herein fail not, but make due return of this writ as the law directs.

Witness my hand and the seal of said court, March 21, A. D. 1878.

[L. S.] ED. J. L. GREEN,

Mch. 30-3w

Chk. D. C. H. C.

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